

STRAIN, DENNIS, MAYHALL & BATES, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

318 ST. CHARLES STREET
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802
TELEPHONE (225) 343-0100
FAX (225) 343-0344
E-MAIL BATES@SDMBLAW.COM

JAMES C. BATES
PARTNER
BATON ROUGE OFFICE

1018 HARDING STREET, SUITE 104
P. O. BOX 53319
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70505-3319
TELEPHONE (337) 237-5900
FAX (337) 233-9095

P. O. BOX 550407
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77255
TELEPHONE: (713) 681-9746
FAX (713) 681-9747

May 23, 2003

Hon. James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
P. O. Box 94275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Re: Hackberry Zone, Reservoir D; Woodlawn
Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

Application is hereby made on behalf of Noble Energy, Inc. to the Commissioner of Conservation for the calling of a public hearing, after legal notice, pertaining to the following matters relative to the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir D; Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana:

1. To establish rules and regulations governing the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir D; Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana;
2. To create a single drilling and production unit for the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir D designated as the HBY RD SUA, as shown on the plat attached hereto.

5. To allow the Commissioner of Conservation to reclassify the reservoir by supplemental order, without the necessity of a public hearing, should the producing characteristics of the Reservoir change and evidence to justify reclassification is submitted to and accepted by the Commissioner of Conservation;
6. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent to the Hackberry Zone, Reservoir D.

The Hackberry Zone, Reservoir D in the Woodlawn Field, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana, is hereby defined as that oil and gas bearing zone encountered between the depths of 10,882 feet and 11,350 feet (electrical log measurements) in the Noble Energy, Inc.-Augustine No. 1 Well located in Section 1, Township 9 South, Range 6 West, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana.

The pre-application conference was held as scheduled on May 1, 2003. In attendance were the parties shown on the attached attendance list. The conference was opened by the undersigned and turned over to James F. Hardwick, consulting geologist for the applicant, who discussed the bases of the applicant's proposal. Mr. Jack Traver presented a geologic counterplan of about 90 acres, supported by structure maps and fault plane maps. Mr. Larry Dickerson, on behalf of Deborah Miller, et al, presented a geographic counterplan consisting of a 220 acre unit bounded on the north by an unadopted unit proposal. Mr. David Sturlese, on behalf of Michael Augustine, showed a geographic counterplan identical to that shown by Mr. Dickerson. Mr. Bill Dale on behalf of Paul Watson, et al, showed a geographic counterplan which used the same northern, southern and eastern boundaries as the applicant's plan, but moved the west line to the east, resulting in a proposed unit of approximately 215 acres. Mr. Leon Comeaux, on behalf of BPR Energy, presented a geographic counterplan of approximately 320 acres, which shifted the northern and southern boundaries to the south and moved the western boundary slightly to the west. After further questions and answers, the conference was adjourned.

The only consistency in the counterplans shown was that most were smaller than the applicant's proposal. Since there appeared to be some consensus among the counterplan proponents that the unit size should be smaller due to the primary product of the proposed unit well being oil, the applicant has revised its proposal. The revised proposal is shown on the plat

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NO REQUIREMENT THAT YOU ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE. This is merely an invitation to attend and participate if the conference is held and you so desire.

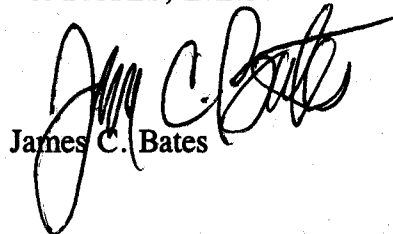
In addition to furnishing the legal notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties, the applicant will provide for posting of the legal notice of the hearing and unit plat in a prominent place in the area of Woodlawn Field. Additionally, the legal notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of Woodlawn Field at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing date.

All pertinent data relating to this application may be obtained **AT THE COST OF THE REQUESTING PARTY** from Cutright & Hardwick, P. O. Box 80972, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70598-0972, (337) 232-7756.

Enclosed to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY** is a list of Interested Owners, Interested Parties and Represented Parties to whom a copy of this notice is being sent and a plat showing the proposed HBY RD SUA, which is the same plat attached to the pre-application notice. Copies of this list and plat will be provided upon request. A reasonable effort has been made to ascertain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Interested Parties or Represented Parties. Also enclosed is our check payable to the Office of Conservation, representing the required hearing application fee.

Very truly yours,

STRAIN, DENNIS, MAYHALL
& BATES, L.L.P.



James C. Bates

JCB:mw
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard Hudson
District Manager

Interested Parties
Interested Owners
Represented Parties

